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TELEGRAM

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INFO EUR 20, GPM 03, SC 01, RSC 01, USIA 12, H 02, NSC 10, L 03, INR 07, P 04,
CIA 04, DOD 01, SP 02, SS 20, SAH 03, SAL 01, NSA 02, SIL 02, LAB 06,
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FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9896
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK 4800
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS 83
CINCPAC
AMCONSUL DANANG 1273
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE 2947

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY Doreen Izquierdo DATE 1/20/82
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SUBJ: CVT AND LOWER HOUSE ELECTIONS

1. THE VIETNAMSE CONFEDERATION OF LABOR (CVT) MADE A VERY POOR SHOWING IN THE LOWER HOUSE ELECTIONS OCT 22. OUT OF 51 CANDIDATES FIELD BY THE CVT, ONLY FOUR WERE ELECTED.

2. NOT A SINGEL CVT OFFICER OR MEMBER WON. ALL THE FOUR CVT ENDORSED VICTORS WERE ALLIES OF THE ORGANIZATION. THESE

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2 OF 2 RUMJIR 9948 C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
FOUR MEMBERS NGUEYN BIEN ANDNGUEYN AN, BOTH OF QUANG NGAI,
TRAN DIA OF BINH THUAN, AND NGUEYN DAC DAN OF BA XUYEN.

3. THE MAIN REASON FOR THE SERIOUS DEFEAT WAS THAT THE CVT DID NOT ELECTIONEER HARD OR LONG ENOUGH. AS ONE EXAMPLE, NGUEYN VAN PHONG, ASSISTANT GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE SAIGON CVT COUNCIL, VACILLATED FOR WEEKS BETWEEN RUNNING FOR THE LOWER HOUSE OR GOING TO THE US ON AN AID-SPONSORED TRIP. BY THE TIME HE FINALLY OPTED FOR THE LOWER HOUSE RACE, IT WAS TOO LATE TO RUN ANYTHING LIKE A SUCCESSFUL CAMPAIGN.

4. THE CVT CANDIDATES EVIDENTLY THOUGH THAT THE CVT ENDORSEMENT ITSEL WOULD BE A MAGIC WAND ASSURING THEIR ELECTION. NOW THEY KNOW BETTER.

5. SHAKEN UP BY THE DEFEAT, THE CVT'S EMBRYONIC POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE HAS MADE A REPORT DETAILING WHAT WENT WRONG. AN AIRPAM ON THIS REPORT WILL FOLLOW.

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